1

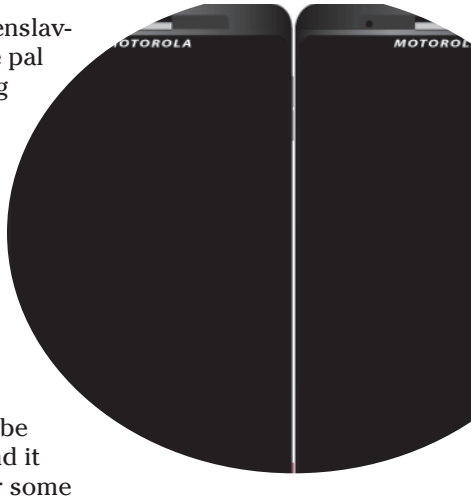
Twice the Droid X for You

In This Chapter

- Putting your phone together
- Charging the battery
- Identifying the phone's pieces and parts
- Taking the phone with you
- Keeping the phone in one place

The word *droid* comes from *android*, which is used in science fiction literature to refer to a robot in human form. That can be a scary thought, because such science fiction literature typically has the theme of those androids turning on their human masters, enslaving us all for our own good. That's not a happy thing.

You don't have to worry about your Droid X2 phone enslaving you. Truly, it's not evil, and it can be your favorite pal once you get over that whole "The androids are trying to kill us" thing. Your high-spirited adventure begins by freeing the phone from the confines of its box and doing some basic product orientation and identification.



Initial Droid X2 Setup

The cheerful folks at the Verizon Store most likely set up your Droid X2 for you. Heck, they probably ripped the thing from the box, installed the battery, and maybe even walked you through the setup. That happens, and it might be a good thing. Even so, this section goes over some basic setup operations.

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Looking in the box

Take a moment to locate and identify each of these goodies found inside the Droid X2 box:

- The Droid X2 phone
- Miscellaneous papers, the instructions, the warranty, and perhaps the *Master Your Device* manuelette (if it reads *Domina Tu Aparato,* turn the thing over)
- The phone's battery and back cover (if the battery isn't installed)
- A micro-USB cable
- A power adapter

The Droid X2 ships with a plastic cling sheet over its screen, which tells you where various features are located. You can remove the plastic if you haven't already.

Other things that you may want are not included in the Droid X2 box. Those things include:

- A smart-looking, leatherette belt-clip phone jacket
- A micro-USB car charger
- A docking stand
- An HDMI cable
- Headphones
- A large gemstone or gold nugget

These items, as well as other phone accessories, may have been included as bonus gifts by the people who sold you the phone. The large gemstone or gold nugget is simply something I'd enjoy finding in a Verizon tote bag, though I don't seem to be that fortunate.

I recommend keeping the instructions and other information as long as you own the phone: The phone's box makes an excellent storage place for that stuff — as well as for anything else you don't plan to use right away.

If anything is missing or appears to be damaged, contact the people who sold you the phone. The Droid X2 does come with a warranty, and most phone stores have a return policy if you're just completely grumpy about the phone.

Installing the phone's battery

When your phone comes disassembled inside its box, your first duty as a new Droid X2 owner is to install the battery. Your second duty is to charge the battery. Installing the battery is easy, and charging it doesn't require a lightning storm, Transylvanian castle, and 1930s lab equipment.

Install the battery by following these steps:

1. **Ensure that the phone is turned off.**

   Obviously if the battery isn't yet installed, you can pretty much be guaranteed that the phone is turned off. Otherwise, see Chapter 2 for information on turning off the phone.

2. **Flip the phone over so that the front (the glassy part) is facing away from you.**

3. **Disconnect any cables or the headset, if they're attached.**

4. **If necessary, remove the back cover: Place both thumbs on the center part of the back cover and gently slide the back cover downward using your thumbs. Lift the back cover and set it aside.**

   A gentle push is all that's required; feel free to squeeze the phone as you push downward. The back cover slides down a wee bit, about ⅛ of an inch.

5. **If you have a new phone and the battery hasn't yet been installed, unwrap the battery and the phone's back cover.**

   Toss out the plastic wrapping.

6. **Orient the battery so that its metallic contacts are in the lower-right corner as you're looking at the back of the phone.**

   The battery is shaped like a giant, square mint cookie, the fudgy kind that the doctor advised you not to eat.

7. **Insert the bottom edge of the battery first, and then lower the top edge like you're closing the lid on a tiny box.**

   See Figure 1-1 for help in positioning and inserting the battery. Its metal contacts should be on the lower-right edge as you insert the battery into the phone.

   When the battery is fully inserted, it snaps into place. The back of the battery is flush with the back of the phone; it doesn't stick up, not one itty bit.

Figure 1-1: Inserting the phone's battery.

8. **Replace the phone's back cover.**

   The cover has four prongs that slide into four slots on the back of the phone. Position the cover over the slots and it falls into place. Then slide up the cover with your thumbs until it snaps into place.

After the battery is installed, the next step is to charge it. Continue reading in the next section.

Charging the battery

Forget the science and technical terms. To charge your phone's battery, follow these two steps:

1. **Plug the phone's power adapter into a wall socket.**

   Ensure that the power adapter is connected to the USB cable, which was included in the Droid X2 box.

2. **Plug the phone into the USB cable.**

   The cable connects to the phone's micro-USB hole, found on the phone's left side. The cable plugs in only one way.

As the phone charges, the notification light on the phone's front side glows. When the light is orange-yellow, the phone is charging. When the light is green, the phone is fully charged.

- When the phone is turned on while charging, you'll see the percentage that the battery is charged displayed on the touchscreen, such as *Charging (60%)*.
- The notification light uses three colors: amber for charging, green for fully charged, and red as the near-death battery-low warning light.
- You can use the phone while it's charging.
- The Droid X2 uses any standard cell phone charger that has a micro-USB connector.
- You can charge the Droid X2 in your car, assuming that you have a car cell phone charger that features a micro-USB connector. The folks at the Phone Store would be delighted to sell you such a contraption.
- The phone also charges itself when it's plugged into a computer using a USB cable. The computer must be on for charging to work.

- A micro-USB connector has a flat, trapezoid shape, which makes it different from the mini-USB connector, which is squat and slightly larger and used primarily on evil cell phones.

Droid X2 Orientation

No one dials a phone any more. I mean, phones don't really have dials, do they? It's like saying that you "roll down the windows" in your car. Unless you bought the bottom-line cheap car, you probably have power windows. (Although, in my Jeep, I have to unzip the windows.)

The Droid X2 has no dial. It has only a few buttons. And lots of other, mysterious crevasses and bumps are on the thing. To better know the purposes of all those greeblies, as well as their proper nomenclature, peruse this section.

Knowing what's what on your phone

To help you understand the intimidating onslaught of Droid X2 features and doodads, I present Figure 1-2, which illustrates interesting things found on the front of your phone. Figure 1-3 provides the same service, but for your phone's butt.

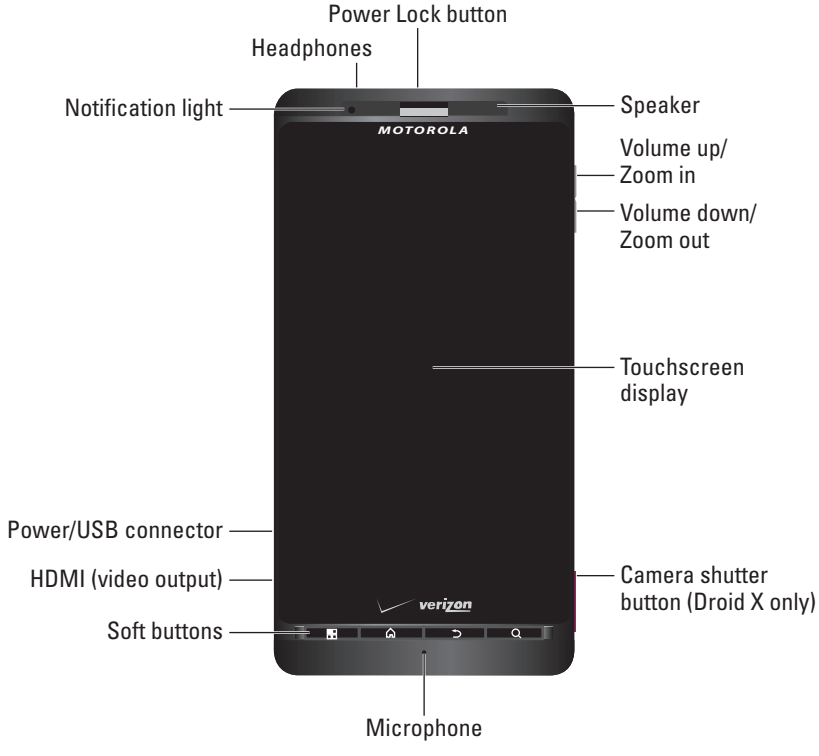

Figure 1-2: Your phone's face.

The terms referenced in both Figures 1-2 and 1-3 are the same as the ones used elsewhere in this book, as well as in whatever scant Droid X2 documentation exists.

- The phone's Power Lock button is found on top of the phone, as shown in Figures 1-2 and 1-3. See Chapter 2 for details on how it's used.
- The main part of the phone is the *touchscreen* display. You use the touchscreen with one or more of your fingers to control the phone, which is where it gets the name *touch*screen.
- *Soft buttons* appear below the touchscreen (refer to Figure 1-2). Some documentation may refer to these buttons as *keys*. They have no function unless the phone is turned on.
- Yes, the main microphone is on the bottom of the phone. Even so, it still picks up your voice, loud and clear. You don't need to hold the phone at an angle for the bottom microphone to work.

Figure 1-3: Your phone's rump.

- The two bonus microphones (refer to Figure 1-3) are for noise-cancelling purposes. They help reduce background noise, which means that you hear people on the phone more clearly and they hear you more clearly. You do not speak into the noise-cancelling microphones.
- The rear speaker is designed for video and other audio playback.
- You adjust the phone's volume by using the Volume button on the phone's right side (refer to Figure 1-2).
- The Volume button also serves as a Zoom function when using the Droid X2 as a camera. See Chapter 14 for additional details.
- The Droid X2, unlike the original Droid X, does not feature a camera shutter button.
- Yes, the Droid X2 lacks a physical keyboard. Instead, an onscreen keyboard is used, as covered in Chapter 4.

Listening with earphones

The nice people who sold you the Droid X2 might have tossed in a set of earbud-style earphones for you to use. If not, well then, they weren't that nice, were they? But that's not a reason to give up on the concept of using earphones or another form of headset.

You're probably familiar with earbud-type earphones: The buds are set into your ears. The sharp, pointy end of each earphone — what you don't want to stick into your ear — goes into the top of the phone.

Between the earbuds and the sharp, pointy thing is often found a control noodle on which a button sits. The button can be used to mute the phone or to start or stop playback of music when the Droid X2 is in its music-playing mode.

You can also use the control noodle to answer the phone when it rings.

Usually, a teensy hole on the back side of the noodle serves as the phone's microphone. The hole allows you to use the earphones as a hands-free headset with the Droid X2.

- You can purchase any cell phone headset for use with the Droid X2. Any standard earphones work, though some headsets may feature noodle buttons that may not work on the Droid X2.
- You want earphones that have a microphone. If you opt for the cheapest earphones, they probably don't have a microphone, which doesn't help.
- The earbuds are labeled R for right and L for left.
- You don't use the earphone's noodle to set the phone's volume, either in a call or while you're listening to music. Instead, the phone's volume is set by using the Volume button on the side of the phone, as illustrated in Figures 1-2 and 1-3.
- See Chapter 16 for more information on using your Droid X2 as a portable music player.

- Be sure to fully insert the earphone connector into the phone. The person you're talking with cannot hear you well when the earphones are plugged in only part of the way.
- You can also use a Bluetooth headset with your phone, to listen to a call or some music. See Chapter 19 for more information on Bluetooth attachments for the Droid X2.

- I find it best to fold the earphones when I don't need them, as opposed to wrapping them up in a loop: Put the earbuds and connector in one hand and then pull the wire out straight with the other hand. Fold the wire in half, and then in half again. You can then put the earphones in your pocket or on a tabletop. By folding the wires, you avoid creating the wire-ball-of-Christmas-tree-lights that would otherwise happen.

Exploring your phone's guts

It rarely happens, but occasionally you may need to access your phone's innards. Unlike some other cell phones, the Droid X2 is designed to have easily replaceable items that you can get to without having to sneak around behind the manufacturer's back, pry open the phone, and alert the warranty police.

Specifically, you might need to open your phone for two reasons:

- To install or replace the battery
- To access the microSD memory card

When you need to access one of these items, you can obey these steps:

1. **Turn off your phone.**

   See the section "Turning off the phone" in Chapter 2 for more information.

2. **Flip the phone over.**
3. **Use your thumbs to slide down the upper-back cover.**
4. **Set aside the back cover.**

   Use Figure 1-4 to identify the phone's battery and the microSD memory card.

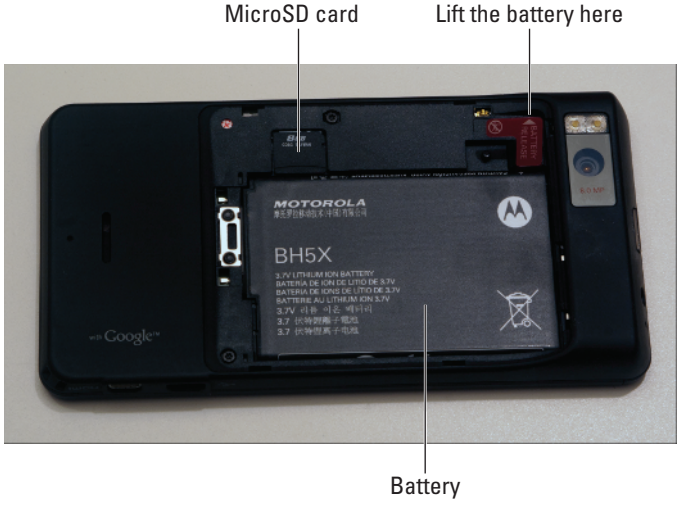

Figure 1-4: The guts of the Droid X2.

5. **To access the microSD card:**

   a. **First remove the battery by lifting the little tab illustrated in Figure 1-4.**

   b. **Remove the microSD card by sliding it to the right, toward the empty battery compartment. Pull the card all the way out until it's free.**

   When you're done rummaging around inside your phone, you close things up.

6. **Return the back cover to the phone; the little prongs on the cover fit into the four holes on either side of the phone.**

   The cover fits only one way.

7. **Slide up the cover until it snaps into position.**

You can turn on the phone again after the back cover is locked into place. See Chapter 2 for information on turning on your phone.

A SIM (subscriber identity module) card identifies the phone and does other things you need not care about. Other cell phones use one to access the cellular network, but the Droid X2 doesn't have or use a SIM card.

Using other phone accessories

The Droid X2 has available various optional accessories you can buy to enhance your mobile communications experience. In addition to a choice of cases, holsters, and charms, two accessories worth considering are the multimedia docking station and the car mount.

The multimedia docking station

In a nutshell, the *multimedia docking station* is a base into which you can set the phone. The station features both USB and HDMI connections so that the phone can recharge inside the docking station as well as communicate with a computer or share its touchscreen with an HD television set or monitor.

The multimedia docking station, which makes a helpful home for the phone (see the next section), can be used as a bedside alarm or, when connected to a stereo system, to delight you with its music.

- The multimedia docking station can be purchased at the same place where you obtained your Droid X2 or at any location where cell phone goodies are sold.
- The Droid X2 runs a special app when it's plugged into the docking station. That app typically displays a clock and the weather, plus it gives you quick access to the phone's music library.

- See Chapter 17 for more information about using your state-of-the-art cell phone as a digital clock.
- Chapter 16 covers playing music on the Droid X2.
- Viewing slideshows and managing pictures with the Droid X2 are covered in Chapter 15.

Car mount

The *car mount* has a cradle for the Droid X2 on one end and, when properly assembled, a suction cup on the other. You could probably stick it to any flat surface, but it's a *car* mount, so I assume that it will stick to the windshield or dashboard of your favorite auto.

When you stick the Droid X2 into the car mount, the phone automatically switches to the Car Dock screen, which provides you with quick access to handy phone features while you're operating a motor vehicle.

A car charger is also available for use with the car mount. It's one of those gizmos that plugs into what was once called a cigarette lighter. The other end of the car charger plugs into your Droid X2, which can be nestled in the car mount or just rattling loose inside your vehicle.

- Yes, you can use the car charger without having to use the car mount.
- For the suction cup on the car mount to work properly, use a hard, flat, smooth surface. An adhesive plastic disk comes with the car mount. Use it to ensure that the suction cup has a solid surface to suck on.

A Home for Your Phone

Where I grew up, the phone was always in the kitchen, on the wall. I remember that great day when my folks added a line in the living room — and then in the bedroom! You could even plug in an extension cord and take the phone outside to talk. Man, we were kings.

After charging the battery in your Droid X2, you can take it anywhere. Even so, I recommend keeping a home for your phone when you're not roaming about, even if that home is in your purse or pocket.

Carrying the Droid X2

The Droid X2 can still fit into a pocket or even the teensiest of party purses. It's well designed, so you can carry your phone in your pocket or purse without fear that something will accidentally turn it on, dial Mongolia, and run up a heck of a phone bill.

Because the Droid X2 features a proximity sensor, you can keep the phone in your pocket while you're on a call or listening to music on headphones. The proximity sensor disables the touchscreen, which ensures that nothing accidentally is activated when you don't want it to be.

- Although it's okay to place the phone somewhere when you're making a call, be careful not to touch the phone's Power Lock button (refer to Figure 1-3). Doing so may temporarily enable the touchscreen, which can hang up a call or mute the phone or do any of a number of other undesirable things.
- You can always store the Droid X2 in one of a variety of handsome carrying-case accessories, some of which come in fine Naugahyde or leatherette.
- Don't forget that the phone is in your pocket, especially when it's in your coat or jacket. You might accidentally sit on the phone, or it can fly out when you take off your coat. The worst fate for the Droid X2, or any cell phone, is to take a trip through the wash. I'm sure the phone has nightmares about it happening.

Storing the Droid X2

I recommend that you find a place for your phone when you're not taking it with you. Make the spot consistent: on top of your desk or workstation, in the kitchen, on the nightstand — you get the idea. Phones are as prone to loss as your car keys and glasses, so consistency is the key to keeping and finding your phone in one spot.

Then again, your phone does ring, so when you lose it, you can always have someone else call your number to help you locate the phone.

- I keep the Droid X2 on my desk, next to my computer. Conveniently, I have the charger plugged into the computer, so I keep it plugged in, connected, and charging when I'm not using it.
- Phones on coffee tables get buried under magazines and often squished when rude people put their feet on the furniture.
- Avoid putting the Droid X2 in direct sunlight; heat is a bad thing for any electronic gizmo.
- Do not wash your phone in the laundry (see the preceding section). See Chapter 23 for information on properly cleaning the phone.